

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MRS.
DIXIE BIGGER

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mrs. Dixie Bigger, who left us on October 20th of this year. She will be greatly missed by all of her family and friends, her community, and her union, United Auto Workers Local 1237.

Mrs. Bigger was born on August 22, 1940 in Oquawka, Illinois, to Harold Wilson and Velma Mea Henshaw. She grew up in Oquawka and attended G&O High School. In 1956, she married Richard "Dick" Bigger, who sadly passed away in July of 2009. Mrs. Bigger worked at Champion Spark Plug in Burlington, Iowa for 33 years, and was a dedicated member of U.A.W. Local 1237 and the Champion Council. Mrs. Bigger was also civically engaged as a Henderson County Precinct Committeewoman. After retiring, she became the recording secretary for the U.A.W. Local 1237 Retiree Chapter, a position she maintained until May of 2016. Mrs. Bigger was blessed with three children, five grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for Mrs. Bigger's contributions to our community, and my condolences are with her loved ones at this difficult time.

HONORING CHERYL SEIDNER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cheryl Seidner, who will be honored as Humboldt County Citizen of the Year on October 27, 2017, an award she richly deserves.

Cheryl Seidner's contributions to the Wiyot Tribe and advocacy for American Indian rights are exemplary. As Chairwoman of the Wiyot Tribe from 1996–2008, Ms. Seidner was essential to the establishment of the Table Bluff Reservation, now home to permanent housing for tribal members and a community center. She was instrumental to the repatriation of Indian Island in Humboldt Bay, the site of a terrible massacre in 1860 that nearly exterminated the Wiyot Tribe. And, as an author and poet, Ms. Seidner also organized an annual vigil commemorating this massacre and brought back the Wiyot young women's coming-of-age ceremony.

Cheryl Seidner has served on the executive committee of the National Congress of American Indians and the Northern California Indian Development Council. She worked as a mentor for students during her 28 years in the Humboldt State University Educational Opportunity Program and was an advisor to the American Indian Alliance, which supports American Indian students' academic efforts. In 2008, Ms. Seidner was granted an Honorary Doctorate of Human Letters from Humboldt State University for her activism on behalf of American Indians at the local, state and national levels.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing deep appreciation for Cheryl Seidner's extraordinary leadership and devotion to American Indian activism and achievement and congratulating her on decades of service to the North Coast's Indian communities.

C-TPAT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3551, the C-TPAT Reauthorization Act of 2017. This legislation reauthorizes the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Program (C-TPAT).

The C-TPAT program works to improve United States border security and the security of our international supply partners by providing a voluntary public-private sector partnership focused on bolstering trade while keeping Americans safe. Since its creation in 2001, this program has allowed trade partners and American businesses to opt into increased security measures and make corrective actions in order to streamline their entry into our country. The program simplifies the process of suppliers bringing products into our country and allows our country to broaden security trade measures without discouraging trade with those who do not opt in.

In the United States, more than 41 million jobs depend on international trade, and my home state of Georgia boasts the largest single-terminal container facility of its kind in North America, based in Savannah. This industry supports over 360,000 jobs statewide and is vitally important in our local and national economy.

The C-TPAT program is good for trade and promotes the safety of our citizens, and I urge my fellow members to support H.R. 3551 to reauthorize funding for this program.

IN HONOR OF SERGEANT FIRST
CLASS JEREMIAH W. JOHNSON

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sergeant First Class Jeremiah "JW" Wayne Johnson, who gave his life while serving our nation on October 4, 2017, in Ouallam, Niger. SFC Johnson was one of four servicemen killed in the hostile attack in southwest Niger.

A Member of the 3rd Special Forces Group, SFC Johnson proudly served our Nation for ten years as a Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Specialist (74D). At home, he enjoyed fixing and riding motorcycles, forging and customizing knives, and most importantly, spending time with his family.

During his tenure in the Army, SFC Johnson received numerous awards and commendations, including the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service

Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the Armed Forces Service Medal. Posthumously, SFC Johnson was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and the Combat Action Badge.

SFC Johnson was laid to rest in North Carolina on October 16, 2017. His motorcade was met by hundreds of community members, including many uniformed veterans and active duty soldiers, who gathered to honor his life and pay their respects.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in commemorating the life of SFC Jeremiah "JW" Wayne Johnson and also in offering our condolences and prayers to his wife Crystal, their two daughters, Addie and Elisa, and to his many family members, friends and comrades as they mourn the loss of this brave hero.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. NEIL
CAPRETTO

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Neil Capretto, Medical Director of Gateway Rehabilitation, for his 30 years of service to the Beaver County community.

Dr. Capretto graduated from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and went on to serve as chief resident in psychiatry at St. Francis General Hospital before settling in Western Pennsylvania.

As an expert in the study of addiction, he has written scholarly articles and served as a medical commentator and consultant to both local and national media networks.

Today, he serves as an innovator in the field of pain management and a leader in the fight against the opioid epidemic.

Not only is Dr. Capretto incredibly knowledgeable, but he continues to display exemplary patience and kindness, even amidst his battle with cancer.

I'd like to thank him for his 30 years of service and let him and his family know that we are praying for speedy recovery in this difficult time. God bless.

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
TRAFFICKING EMERGENCY RE-
SPONSE BY DETECTING INCOM-
ING CONTRABAND WITH TECH-
NOLOGY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 23, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support H.R. 2142, the International Narcotics Trafficking Emergency Response by Detecting Incoming Contraband with Technology (INTERDICT) Act, to aid U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers with narcotics screenings.

In 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) determined that fentanyl and synthetic opioids took the lives of 64,070 people, a 21 percent increase from the previous year. In my home state, the Georgia